

We Claim:

1. A method of detecting the presence of a target BS203 polynucleotide in a test sample, comprising:
- 5 (a) contacting said test sample with at least one BS203-specific polynucleotide or complement thereof; and
- (b) detecting the presence of said target BS203 polynucleotide in the test sample, wherein said BS203-specific polynucleotide has at least 50% identity to a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 1, SEQUENCE ID NO 2, SEQUENCE ID NO 3, SEQUENCE ID NO 4, SEQUENCE ID NO 5, SEQUENCE ID NO 6, SEQUENCE ID NO 7, SEQUENCE ID NO 8, SEQUENCE ID NO 9, SEQUENCE ID NO 10, SEQUENCE ID NO 11, SEQUENCE ID NO 12, SEQUENCE ID NO 13, SEQUENCE ID NO 14, and
- 10 fragments or complements thereof.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said target BS203 polynucleotide is attached to a solid phase prior to performing step (a).
3. A method of detecting a target BS203 polynucleotide in a test sample suspected of containing said target, comprising:
- 20 (a) contacting said test sample with at least one BS203 oligonucleotide as a sense primer and with at least one BS203 oligonucleotide as an anti-sense primer and amplifying to obtain a first stage reaction product;
- (b) contacting said first stage reaction product with at least one other BS203 oligonucleotide to obtain a second stage reaction product, with the proviso that the other BS203 oligonucleotide is located 3' to the BS203 oligonucleotides utilized in step (a) and is complementary to said first stage reaction product; and
- 25 (c) detecting said second stage reaction product as an indication of the presence of the target BS203 polynucleotide, wherein the BS203 oligonucleotides utilized in step (a) and step (b) have at least 50% identity to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 1, SEQUENCE ID NO 2, SEQUENCE ID NO 3, SEQUENCE ID NO 4, SEQUENCE ID NO 5, SEQUENCE ID NO 6, SEQUENCE ID NO 7, SEQUENCE ID NO 8, SEQUENCE ID NO 9, SEQUENCE ID NO 10, SEQUENCE ID NO 11, SEQUENCE ID NO 12, SEQUENCE ID NO
- 30 13, SEQUENCE ID NO 14, and fragments or complements thereof.

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4. The method of claim 3, wherein said test sample is reacted with a solid phase prior to performing one of steps (a), (b) or (c).

5 5. The method of claim 3, wherein said detection step comprises utilizing a detectable label capable of generating a measurable signal.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said detectable label is reacted to a solid phase.

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7. A method for detecting BS203 antigen in a test sample suspected of containing said BS203 antigen, comprising:

15 (a) contacting the test sample with an antibody or fragment thereof which specifically binds to at least one epitope of a BS203 antigen selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 17, SEQUENCE ID NO 18, SEQUENCE ID NO 19, SEQUENCE ID NO 20, SEQUENCE ID NO 21, and fragments thereof, wherein said contacting is carried out for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes; and

20 (b) detecting the presence of said complexes as an indication of the presence of said BS203 antigen.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said antibody is attached to a solid phase.

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